

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Application of: Mika NISKANEN
Serial No.: Not yet known
Filed: Herewith
For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR HANDLING
CONTAINERS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

December 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to M.P.E.P. §609 and 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97-1.99, applicant submits herewith an information disclosure citation which lists references of which the applicant is aware. A copy of each of the references is also submitted herewith.

An English translation of DE 36 21 648 is not available at this time. However, an English-language abstract of this reference is submitted herewith. It is respectfully submitted that the relevance of this reference can be readily understood by referring to the drawings of the patent and corresponding English-language abstract provided.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. While the term "references" is used in citing the publications called to the examiner's attention herein, applicants do not make any admission that each or all of them are "prior art" references within the meaning of the statutory and case law.

Applicant reserves the right to contend, where appropriate, that a reference asserted against any claim of the present application is not prior art under the facts and the law.

Applicant also reserves the right to present appropriate arguments and/or evidence to establish patentability over the references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

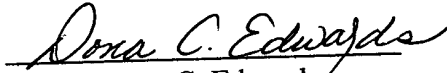
Applicant respectfully requests that the examiner independently determine those items which the examiner would consider the most pertinent of all the references cited herein.

Applicant respectfully requests that the references be considered and made of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed simultaneously with the filing of the application and therefore no fee is due. However, in the event that a fee is required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500518.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Dona C. Edwards
Reg. No. 42,507

Encls. PTO-1449
10 References
International Search Report

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Rec'd PCT/PTO Sheet 3 of 3 DEC 2004

FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 991.1202		SERIAL NO.: Not yet known	
LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S): Mika NISKANEN			
				FILING DATE: Herewith		GROUP: Not yet known	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5	5	1	1	9	2	7	04/1996	Lanigan, Sr. et al.	414	460	
	AB	6	1	3	8	8	4	6	10/2000	Baumann	212	326	
	AC	5	7	1	8	5	5	0	02/1998	Lanigan, Sr. et al.	414	140.3	
	AD	3	8	6	3	9	7	0	02/1975	Gottlieb et al.	294	67 DA	
	AE	5	2	8	0	9	8	0	01/1994	Coatta	294	81.1	
	AF	6	1	4	5	9	0	3	11/2000	Stinis	294	81.21	
	AG												
	AH												
	AI												
	AJ												
	AK												

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS															
		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION		
														YES	NO
	AL	9	8	0	6	6	5	6		WO				X	
	AM	3	6	2	1	6	4	8		Germany				Abstract	
	AN	0	1	8	3	3	2	0		EPO				X	
	AO	2	1	4	7	2	6	6		Great Britain				X	
	AP														

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	AQ
	AR
	AS

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.